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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION FROM
FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY German Democratic Republic

SUBJECT Political - Resistance activities, police action

DATE OF INFORMATION 1954

HOW
PUBLISHED Daily newspapers

DATE DIST. / 3 Jul 1954

WHERE
PUBLISHED Hamburg, New York

NO. OF PAGES 3

DATE
PUBLISHED 16 Mar-2 May 1954

LANGUAGE German

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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SOURCE As indicated

RESISTANCE ACTIVITIES AND COUNTERMEASURES IN THE GDR

TEACHER PURGE RESUMED -- Hamburg, Die Welt, 19 Mar 54

West Berlin, 18 March -- A new purge wave among the teaching profession in the GDR has started. It was initiated with an order by the Council of Ministers, according to which all teachers are "functionaries of the power of the workers and peasants." In the Chemnitz region, two teachers were dismissed because they refused to accept this order. The allegations against them are substantially the same as those made against others last year, prior to the start of the "new policy." The only new charges are that the teachers, in current-events classes, explained to the pupils that free elections in the GDR are an "absurd idea" and spoke of the mood of deep depression in the GDR caused by the negative result of the Berlin Conference.

The new order has caused an increase in the number of teachers fleeing the country. On 16 March alone, about 40 teachers from the GDR asked for asylum in West Berlin. They declared that the order had deprived them of the last opportunity to continue the education of their pupils according to principles not dependent on party-line considerations.

New York, N Y, Staats-Zeitung und Herold, 24 Apr 54

After a large number of teachers had been dismissed in the Leipzig and Dresden districts at the beginning of March, the purge is now being continued in intensified form in other districts of the GDR. The teachers are called in for an "interview," during which they are informed that they are no longer suitable for employment as teachers because of their "attitude toward the state."

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AGITATION AGAINST ODER-NEISSE FRONTIER -- New York, N Y, Staats-Zeitung und Herold, 13 Apr 54

Berlin -- Izydoreczyk, Polish ambassador to the GDR, recently protested to Premier Grotewohl about German criticism concerning the Oder-Neisse line now taking place near that line, since this criticism is a matter of concern to Poland. A similar protest has been sent by the Polish Workers Party to the SED (Socialist Unity Party). It is reported that Vice-Premier Ulbricht has ordered investigations which are to concentrate on Schwerin, Frankfurt an der Oder, and Dresden. It is also reported that these "provocative criticisms" are still going on.

New York, N Y, Staats-Zeitung und Herold, 16 Mar 54

Dresden -- In the eastern portions of Saxony, the State Security Service has recently been carrying out large-scale searches for "enemies of the state," who are charged with agitation against the Oder-Neisse "Peace Frontier." Several leading functionaries of the SED in Saxony have been expelled from the party as a result of this police action.

MEASURES AGAINST REFUGEES FROM POLAND -- New York, N Y, Staats-Zeitung und Herold, 23 Apr 54

The inhabitants of the regions along the Polish frontier near Neubrandenburg have recently been required to sign statements that they would not give shelter to anyone unable to produce valid identity papers. This measure was taken on emphatic requests by Poland and is designed to halt the flow of German and Polish refugees from Poland into the GDR, which has increased considerably of late.

MEASURES AGAINST PEASANTS -- New York, N Y, Staats-Zeitung und Herold, 2 May 54

Leipzig -- Many peasants with large holdings, whose identity cards have expired and who have not yet delivered their quota of agricultural products for 1953, were not issued new identity cards when they applied for them. They can receive them only when they can show a certificate stating that they have fulfilled their quotas. This measure is intended to prevent peasants who fear reprisals from fleeing the GDR.

MEASURES AGAINST FORGED DIRECTIVES -- Hamburg, Die Welt, 31 Mar 54

State Security Chief Wollweber has been trying for weeks to counteract intensive resistance activity with the following appeal in the newspapers: "Caution, forgers at work!" Forgery activity has been noted all over the GDR. Collective farms, local authorities, and nationalized plants are being flooded with forged directives. The senders of these directives always pretend to be the various ministries of the GDR, and the letterheads usually look genuine.

For instance, the IV. Parteitag (Fourth Party Congress) collective farm at Parchim received an official letter informing it that it was to be paid a bonus of 5,000 marks. Only when a delegation wanted to collect the money from the local district council, and when the district council checked with the ministry in Berlin, was the letter discovered to be a forgery. In other cases, it has been reported, people-owned plants were requested, in forged letters pretending to come from the ministry in charge of the plant, to dismiss workers or to release money from the so-called directors' fund as a special bonus for the workers.

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So far, the forged letters are the only evidence in the hands of the authorities, and the originators have not been found in any of the cases.

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES -- New York, N Y, Staats-Zeitung und Herold,
26 Apr 54

Parapets have recently been put up on the roof of the prison at Goerlitz, to provide cover for the prison guards in case of serious trouble. This project appears to have been carried out because the Goerlitz prison was stormed on 17 June 1953, resulting in the release of its inmates.

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